

Message Text

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FOL GENEVA 04428, SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO USUN MAR 23, 1978
REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 04428

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM

SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS IN CAMBODIA

1. MISSION GENEVA HAS MADE INQUIRIES REGARDING IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISION ON CAMBODIA ADOPTED DURING 34TH SESSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION.

2. AS INTERPRETED BY AMCIT CICIEL GROSS (WHO WILL PROBABLY BE IN CHARGE OF THE PROJECT), LANGUAGE IN DECISION IS SO BROAD THAT INFORMATION REGARDING HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN CAMBODIA CAN BE SECURED FROM VARIETY OF SOURCES WORLDWIDE, I.E., GOVERNMENTS, NEWS MEDIA, INDIVIDUALS.

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3. MISSION GENEVA AGREES WITH GROSS INTERPRETATION AND URGES DEPARTMENT TO MAKE AVAILABLE TO THE HRD ANY AVAILABLE INFORMATION IT HAS ON SUBJECT FOR INCLUSION IN SYG'S REPORT TO THE COMMISSION AT ITS 35TH SESSION. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT DEPARTMENT (D/HA) HAS EXTENSIVE INFORMATION ON CAMBODIA AND MADE IT AVAILABLE TO UK EMBASSY IN

WASHINGTON IN PREPARATION FOR UK'S INTRODUCTION OF THIS ITEM TO THE 34TH HRC. PARTICULARLY, MISSION BELIEVES THAT TESTIMONY OF INDIVIDUAL REFUGEES WOULD GIVE DRAMATIC AND PERSONAL IMPACT TO THE EVENTS IN CAMBODIA WHICH SHOULD COMPEL THE HRC ATTENTION.

4. WHILE OUR INTERPRETATION OF THE DECISION IS THAT SUCH INFORMATION COULD BE GIVEN BY GOVERNMENTS DIRECTLY TO THE HR DIVISION, DEPARTMENT (IF THERE IS CONCURRENCE ABOUT PROVIDING INFORMATION) MAY WISH TO CONSIDER PROVIDING INFORMATION TO NGO GROUPS WHO COULD IN TURN PASS IT TO THE HRD.

5. IN SHORT, WE STRONGLY BELIEVE THAT WE MUST BEGIN NOW TO HELP DOCUMENT THE CASE AGAINST CAMBODIA BY GATHERING EVIDENCE OF SUCH FORCE AND CHARACTER THAT THE THIRTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION WILL NOT BE ABLE TO IGNORE OR REFUTE WHAT HAS BEEN ASSEMBLED. KEEPING IN MIND THAT ALL THIS MATERIAL WILL HAVE TO BE SIFTED BY THE SUB-COMMISSION MEETING IN LATE AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER, THIS PROCESS WILL HAVE TO BE ORGANIZED AND BEGUN IMMEDIATELY. WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING AN OVERALL PROGRAM OF ACTION FROM THE DEPARTMENT AIMED AT ACHIEVING THIS SO THAT WE CAN MORE EFFECTIVELY COORDINATE THE ROLE THAT WE HOPE TO PLAY. VANDEN HEUVEL UNQUOTE VANCE

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